

NATIONAL PRIORITIES LIST (NPL)

Proposed/Final Site

September 2011

Falcon Refinery | Ingeleside, San Patricio County, Texas

Site Location:

Falcon refinery occupies approximately 104 acres in San Patricio County, Texas, and is located 1.7 miles southeast of State Highway 361 on FM 2725 at the northwest and southeast corners of FM 2725 and Bishop Road. Another portion of the site includes a dock facility on Redfish Bay where materials were transferred between barges and storage tanks. The site is bordered by wetlands to the northeast and southeast, residential areas to the north and southwest, an abandoned refinery to the northwest, and a construction company to the southwest.

Site History:

The Falcon Refinery a.k.a. National Oil Recovery Corporation (NORCO) site (the "site") consists of a refinery that has operated intermittently since 1980 and is currently inactive. When in operation, the refinery operated at a 40,000 barrels per day capacity with primary products consisting of naphtha, jet fuel, kerosene, diesel, and fuel oil.

Site Contamination/Contaminants:

The findings of the Expanded Site Inspection, completed in November 2000, revealed releases of fluoranthene, pyrene, benzo(a)anthracene, chrysene, benzo(b)fluoranthene, benzo(k)fluoranthene, benzo(a)pyrene, indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene, benzo(g,h,i) perylene, dibenz(a,h)anthracene, barium, manganese, and mercury into the nearby wetlands, the Redfish Bay fishery, and potential habitat areas for State and Federal threatened or endangered species.

Potential Impacts on Surrounding Community/Environment:

In November 2000, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), formerly the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), completed an Expanded Site Inspection (ESI) report of the site. The ESI findings indicated that chemical releases from the facility have affected sediments in Redfish Bay, sediments in the on-site wetlands, and the on-site soils.

Response Activities (to date):

The Falcon Refinery site was proposed to the National Priorities List (NPL) on September 5, 2002. The Potentially Responsible Party for the Site, National Oil Recovery Corporation (NORCO), entered into an "Administrative Order on Consent" with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), on June 9, 2004, to perform and finance the Removal Action and Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) for the Falcon Refinery Superfund Site (hereinafter the "Site"). The purpose of the Removal Action is to address the wastes from the tanks, equipment, and piping. The Removal Action is ongoing. The purpose of the RI/FS is to determine the nature and extent of contamination and to gather sufficient information about the Site to support an informed risk management decision regarding which remedy is the most appropriate for the Site. The EPA approved the RI/FS Work Plan, Field Sampling Plan, and Quality Assurance Project Plan on October 22, 2007; and Addendum 1 on May 8, 2009. The RI/FS is expected to be completed in the latter part of 2011.

Need for NPL Listing:

The site was initially proposed to the NPL in Sept 2002. EPA is currently evaluating alternatives for this site.

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[The description of the site (release) is based on information available at the time the site was evaluated with the HRS. The description may change as additional information is gathered on the sources and extent of contamination.]

For more information about the hazardous substances identified in this narrative summary, including general information regarding the effects of exposure to these substances on human health, please see the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) ToxFAQs. ATSDR ToxFAQs can be found on the Internet at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/toxfaq.html> or by telephone at 1-888-42-ATSDR or 1-888-422-8737.